

NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.
JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
PROPRIETOR.
NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.—On and after January 1, 1875, the daily and weekly editions of the New York Herald will be sent free of postage.
THE DAILY HERALD, published every day in the year. Four cents per copy. Twelve dollars per year, or one dollar per month, free of postage, to subscribers.
All business or news letters and telegraphic despatches must be addressed New York Herald.
Letters and packages should be properly sealed.
Rejected communications will not be returned.
LONDON OFFICE OF THE NEW YORK HERALD—NO. 46 FLEET STREET.
PARIS OFFICE—RUE SCRIBE.
Subscriptions and advertisements will be received and forwarded on the same terms as in New York.

VOLUME XL.....NO. 184
AMUSEMENTS THIS AFTERNOON AND EVENING.

ROBINSON HALL.
West Sixteenth street.—English Opera.—GIROUARD, GILFILLAN, at 8 P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M.
WOOD'S MUSEUM.
Broadway, corner of Third street.—TWENTY SEASONS OF THE TWINS, at 8 P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M.
GILMORE'S SUMMER GARDEN.
East Barnum's Hippodrome.—GRAND POPULAR CONCERT, at 8 P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M.
OLYMPIC THEATRE.
No. 624 Broadway.—YAKETTY, at 8 P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M.
CENTRAL PARK GARDEN.
THEODORE THOMAS' CONCERT, at 8 P. M.
BOWERY THEATRE.
THE POLISH JEW, at 8 P. M.

TRIPLE SHEET.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, JULY 3, 1875.

THE HERALD FOR THE SUMMER RESORTS.

To Newsdealers and the Public:—
The New York Herald will run a special train every Sunday during the season, commencing July 4, between New York, Niagara Falls, Saratoga, Lake George, Sharon and Richfield Springs, leaving New York at half-past two o'clock A. M., arriving at Saratoga at nine o'clock A. M., and Niagara Falls at a quarter to two P. M., for the purpose of supplying the SUNDAY HERALD along the line of the Hudson River, New York Central and Lake Shore and Michigan Southern roads. Newsdealers and others are notified to send in their orders to the Herald office as early as possible.

From our reports this morning the probabilities are that the weather to-day will be cool and partly cloudy, with possibly light rain.

Persons going out of town for the summer can have the daily and Sunday Herald mailed to them, free of postage, for \$1 per month.

WALL STREET, YESTERDAY.—Stocks were generally steady, but the market was dull. Gold opened at 117 and closed at 117½. Money unchanged.

WE PUBLISH this morning a summary of a batch of bills vetoed by the Governor, together with the reasons for his action.

THE members of the firm of Claflin & Co., indicted for smuggling, have entered a plea of not guilty. Their trial will probably come off in the fall.

THE CHRISTIAN BROTHERS, a Catholic Order devoted wholly to the education of the poor, are holding a convention at Paris for the election of a Superior General. This honor has been conferred on Brother Iride, Director of St. Bernard's College, Bayonne. The new Superior General of this most useful Order is a man of great learning and piety.

THE CARLISTS claim another victory. General Lomas, they assert, was defeated on the 21st and retreated to Orduna, with a loss of twelve hundred men. Spain is experiencing some of the advantages of the monarchical system—thousands of useful men slain to decide whether Carlos or Alfonso is to be the puppet seated at Madrid. The game is certainly not worth the candle. Pity the two aspirants to the throne could not settle their quarrel in single combat, instead of skulking behind the lines while better men are getting killed in their cause.

THE FRENCH INUNDATIONS.—The damage done by the late inundations in the south of France was much greater than at first was supposed. It is calculated that over three thousand persons have lost their lives and property to the enormous amount of sixty millions of dollars has been swept away. A disaster so tremendous in its consequences may well excite pity and commiseration. The good work of relieving the sufferers has been undertaken promptly and generously by the French people. At the same time it would be but a graceful acknowledgment of the generous aid extended by the French people at the time of the Chicago fire if something were done at this side of the water to show that we are not unmindful of the calls of humanity, nor forgetful of acts of kindness and good will.

OUR RIFLEMEN IN IRELAND.—Yesterday the Irish riflemen were in good luck, Mr. Edmund Johnson succeeding in carrying off the first prize. Both Pollock and Rigby made higher scores, but, as these gentlemen had already won the Abercorn Cup, it was adjudged to Mr. Johnson. Messrs. Bodine, Gildersleeve and Fulton came in for prizes in the all corners, but their scores fell considerably below the first three Irish marksmen. Fortune of war. In making up the official score of Tuesday's shooting it was found that the Irish had been beaten by thirty-nine points, not thirty-eight, as was at first supposed. Major Leech has been the recipient of warm praise from the Dublin press on the occasion of his retirement from the command of the team.

The Beecher Trial—An End at Last.

At length the Brooklyn agony is over, and in the way in which its termination can give least satisfaction to the common thought; but we doubt if there is any one cruel enough to wish it continued rather than ended, even in this unrounded fashion. None can withhold his mental congratulations from the sorely tried jurymen that they are at last discharged from their painful, onerous, thankless and unpaid duty, nor fail to sympathize with them in their experience of the practical tyranny of a judicial system that takes a dozen honest men from their daily vocations and confuses six months of their lives to determine the disputes and differences of people in whom they have little or no direct interest. Out of regard to the jurymen, therefore—the really innocent sufferers in the case—all will rejoice that the trial is over. In consideration of the undetermined issue left, however, there will be other views. Annoyance will, of course, be widely felt and expressed that this jury has been unable to agree, for the public is pleased with positive results; but let us do the jury the justice to say that their disagreement is an evidence of the fairness with which they have been drawn from the community and reflect its state of mind. No subject ever discussed by the people at large brought up differences more promptly or inevitably than this one. In the cars, on the steamboats, in the hotels, in the domestic circle—wherever men meet and chat, whether in circles of three or twenty—opposite views were always taken on the merits of this case and on the points as they came up. Our experience has been never to hear the topic mooted without the promptest possible appearance, either in select or miscellaneous circles, of the fact that there were people present who thought Mr. Beecher a great sinner and others who thought him the most grossly maligned and injured of human creatures. It is at least a great tribute to great qualities that this man, good or bad as you may believe him, has so taken hold upon the heart and affections, the admiration and sympathies of the people, that no little pool of thought can be looked upon anywhere in the wide limits of this land but it reflects him pleasantly; no echo can be awakened but it has a voice to champion his cause and declare faith in his purity. Naturally it cannot be possible that Mr. Beecher should be as widely known as his merits are debated, and so it is only what all might anticipate that there should be people everywhere ready to be convinced on light grounds or no grounds at all of his fallibility on that side where men of his temperament are likely to be fallible; for the censorious, cynical, not to say malicious, element in humanity is apt at times to adopt the guise of a severe love of truth against distinguished characters. But that in equally wide limits he should be sustained with almost the devotion of personal love is an evidence of the impression he has made on the time and of the gracious and gentle aspect in which he appears to the people. Since there are, therefore, such deep differences in the way in which the case is regarded; since these differences arise from the very constitution of the general mind—from the fact that no testimony can shake a man like Beecher in some minds, and any testimony can shake any man in other minds—let us give the jury the benefit of the same consideration given to the people, and not regard their failure too impatiently.

But though the case falls there in one sense a result. It may fairly be said that in an endeavor spread over one hundred and twenty days the greatest lawyers of this country (and one of them, perhaps, the acutest living legal reasoner) have been unable to convince a jury of twelve commonplace men that the Plymouth pastor is innocent of the offence for which he has been on trial. Out of all the dust and flurry and conflict of this trial that is the one plain result. Undoubtedly it would be more agreeable in the circles of the many who so naturally admire the eloquent preacher to have the fact stated the other way; and, of course, from their point of view it is true that, despite the equally extended efforts of lawyers only less capable than those employed by Mr. Beecher, the plaintiff had failed to satisfy the jury that the offence charged had been committed. But we believe that to reason in accordance with the presumptions behind the relation of accuser and accused in a case of this nature the statement of the result as we have given it is the fairer of the two. Mr. Beecher is innocent in the presumption only if the plaintiff has failed to make out his case, and if he were thus innocent in the opinion of the jury they would have pronounced him not guilty; but they were unable to give such a verdict. Had the case reached such a conclusion Mr. Beecher must have stood as he did before the trial, before the charge was made, before the world was taken into the confidence of these contestants. All that had been said and written against him on the Tilton case would have been esteemed as rejected—as not merely doubted, but pronounced false—as relegated to the limbo of slanders that always arise against the good name of distinguished men. But that moral rehabilitation could only flow from the distinct verdict, not from the failure to find a verdict. On the other hand, Mr. Beecher's case is, as the parties were placed, the answer to the charge made from the other side, and the result is the indication that the jury esteemed that answer sufficient to throw doubt on the charges; sufficient to discredit them; sufficient to require that they should be examined again and again before acceptance, but not sufficient to dispose of them altogether. And here, again, the mind of the jury would seem to have acted in harmony with the common mind, for in the report we give elsewhere of an enormous number of opinions on this issue it will be seen that while many believe the plaintiff has fallen short in his endeavor to prove his case, the larger number of those used to the examination of evidence clearly believe that he has proved far more than can be in any way agreeable to the friends of the defendant.

From one of the worst features of this case flows one good consequence, which is that a repetition of the trial seems impossible. Abstractly it is not pleasant to consider that the present constitution of courts and the enormous expenditures involved in the payment of counsel puts justice on nearly the same basis as a game of poker, where the man who declares his readiness to put down the largest sum of money may win the game whether he holds or not the winning cards. It amounts to the fact that justice is practically denied to

everybody who cannot afford to employ lawyers of the calibre of Mr. Evans, or who know that their purses would give out long before their cases reached the court of last resort. It is an incident of the great complication of modern life and the terrible multiplication of laws that no simple-minded person can tell to a certainty what course is legal or what illegal with regard to given points, and our judges themselves are constantly in dispute, and one class of courts is always busy reversing judgments given in another class. There are only about half a dozen really great lawyers before the public in any generation; and if with our system of jurisprudence a man trusts himself into court with an ordinary advocate one of these master minds will land him in the vestibule with a bill of costs before his plain lawyer has fairly discovered that the case is in progress. In the case before us, if the jury had pronounced against Mr. Beecher an appeal would apparently have been made and argued for a new trial on the ground of some defect in this trial; and if a new trial had never been obtained at least the arguments to be made could have been so stretched out as to exhaust the resources of the plaintiff. As it is, undoubtedly the defendant stands quite prepared to go forward; but the plaintiff, who has reached the limit of his tether, must evidently stop. All this is better done in the courts of some other nations. In England it is worse even than with us. But in France, where the public power does not merely sit in the person of the judge to hear the parties conduct the case, but where the authorities charge themselves with the inquiry, this whole dispute would have been quietly closed with a positive judgment in a week at most.

But, as we have said, it is in this instance a good result of the evil that there can be no new trial. There is a limit to the extent to which courts may be impeded or the public generally afflicted with the grievances of individuals. Mr. Tilton has very sufficiently shown that he was wronged by the position assigned to him in this difference when the trouble first came out through the zeal of the minions and satellites of the distinguished preacher. He has at least justified his position if he has not sustained his charges. More than this he can scarcely promise himself. He can never make a case that will give public sympathy to a person of his exceptional demeanor; for the people cannot be less pleased to contemplate the whitened sepulchres of fashionable pulpits than they would be gratified at even the apparent triumph of a man of the Tilton type.

The Rio Grande Troubles.

The Mexican government has at last awoke to the necessity of guaranteeing some security to life and property along the Rio Grande border. The arrest of the so-called General Cortina by an officer of the regular army is an act of justice too long delayed. While conceding the difficulties with which the authorities at the city of Mexico have to contend in dealing with a brigand at once so powerful and dexterous as this Cortina, we think that the Mexican authorities have shown themselves criminally indifferent to the duty imposed on them by international law in the matter of suppressing brigandage on their border. The intimate relations existing between the bands of robbers organized on Mexican territory for the plundering of our citizens and a man holding a general's commission in the Mexican army has been for years notorious. Yet, notwithstanding the protests addressed to the government at the city of Mexico, no active measures were taken up to the present time to remove this brigand to general from his command. No doubt Cortina has with him the sympathies of the Mexican population dwelling between Monterey and the Rio Grande, because, directly or indirectly, they gain by the constant raids made by the cattle thieves into Texas. But whatever the difficulties of reducing this turbulent population to order, it is the duty of the Mexican government to overcome them, if it wishes to avoid unpleasant complications with its neighbors. The news from Matamoros that Cortina's friends are arming with a view to rescuing their leader will not surprise any one acquainted with the border and its inhabitants. We hope, however, that General Christó will hold on to his prisoner, and in case a rescue should be attempted shoot him. The only improvement on this plan we could suggest would be to shoot him whether a rescue be attempted or not. It would be the surest way of preserving the border from future trouble. In case of trouble the United States forces will cross the river and support the Mexican forces to maintain order. The people of this country have no desire to quarrel with the Mexican Republic, but a long series of outrages, such as have marked the career of Cortina, might in the end provoke a state of feeling that would render the maintenance of peace impossible. We desire that no pretence for the use of force in dealing with Mexico should exist, because a quarrel might easily be stirred up by designing and ambitious men for their own advantage, under the pretence of maintaining the dignity of the flag and the inviolability of our territory. If the removal of Cortina has been effected in good faith, and should be followed up by a rigorous campaign against his followers and associates, much will have been done to remove a serious danger from the path of the Mexican Republic. We desire peace, and will make many sacrifices to maintain it, if only our neighbors respect our rights and refrain from committing outrages on our territory.

RAPID TRANSIT.—We have at last got so far in the direction of rapid transit as to have Commissioners. That is something. And if these gentlemen will only work we have no doubt that this vital question to the prosperity of the city will soon be satisfactorily solved. The Mayor has shown great tact in the selection of the Commissioners, and deserves praise for having excluded both the lawyers and the professional engineers. The solution of the rapid transit difficulty is now in the hands of practical business men, and their fellow citizens have a right to hope that they will bring the same energy and intelligence to this grave subject as they would to matters of private interest. They have now an excellent opportunity of earning the gratitude of New York by conferring on the people the inestimable boon of rapid transit. It does not much matter what system may be adopted so that it is one that can be put into execution within a reasonable time.

Our City Financial Management and the Public Debt.

The report of the Commissioners of Accounts, sworn officers of the city government, on the management and condition of the Finance Department, affords a clew to the mystery of the large increase of debt and taxation under a reform administration and during a period in which the progress and prosperity of the city have been checked by a policy of suffocation. So far as we can trust to any figures furnished to the public by the present Comptroller, we find the gross debt to have accumulated, in round numbers, as follows:—

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Debt January 1, 1869..... | \$52,000,000 |
| Debt January 1, 1870..... | 66,000,000 |
| Debt January 1, 1871..... | 91,000,000 |
| Debt January 1, 1872..... | 98,000,000 |
| Debt January 1, 1873..... | 118,000,000 |
| Debt January 1, 1874..... | 136,000,000 |
| Debt January 1, 1875..... | 159,000,000 |

These statements are, as far as possible, exclusive of revenue bonds, which are simply for money raised for current expenses in anticipation of incoming taxation, and should be all paid out of the taxes of the year for which they are issued as soon as they are collected. We also find the tax levy to have swelled from year to year for the past ten years, in round numbers, as follows:—
Tax levy in 1865.....\$17,000,000
Tax levy in 1866.....19,000,000
Tax levy in 1867.....21,000,000
Tax levy in 1868.....23,000,000
Tax levy in 1869.....25,000,000
Tax levy in 1870.....26,000,000
Tax levy in 1871.....28,000,000
Tax levy in 1872.....29,000,000
Tax levy in 1873.....30,000,000
Tax levy in 1874.....32,000,000
Tax levy in 1875.....34,000,000
The taxes levied upon the citizens for the expenses of government in four years of Tammany rule, from 1868 to 1871, amounted in the aggregate to \$91,000,000. Of this it has been shown that \$30,000,000 were stolen, leaving the honest expenditure \$71,000,000. The taxes levied in four years of the present financial rule, from 1872 to 1875 inclusive, reach in the total \$126,000,000. Of this we have a right to believe that not a dollar has been stolen. According to Mayor Havemeyer's last Message to the Common Council, January 19, 1874, the amount which it was required to raise by tax for payment of interest on the city and county debt in 1869 was \$2,805,000. It 1871 it had risen to \$6,000,000. In 1875 it has increased to \$9,300,000. We thus find that since 1871 up to 1875, under Comptroller Green's management, the debt has increased \$48,000,000, the annual taxation \$10,000,000 and the annual interest account \$6,500,000. These results have been conveniently laid to the account of the legacy of debt left us by the infamous Tammany Ring. But this does not satisfactorily explain the continued increase of the public burdens. Still less can we attribute our extravagant expenditures to public improvements, for the public works have been almost abandoned and the progress of the city has been completely blocked for the past four years. No one can read the report of the Commissioners of Accounts without becoming impressed with the fact that the rapid strides we have made since 1871 toward municipal bankruptcy are due to incompetent and reckless financial management, to a financial chicanery which would speedily break down the business of a banker or merchant, no matter how large might be its capital.

The accounts of the Finance Department have been so miserably muddled, either through incapacity or design, that the Commissioners of Accounts find it impossible to trace out the unexpended balance of any single year's appropriations, or to discover what has been done with such balances. The Comptroller appears to have disregarded the law which makes each appropriation applicable alone to the purpose and the year for which it is made, and to have carried forward balances from year to year and used them at his pleasure, without any reappropriation by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, which reappropriation is positively required by the law. For instance, in 1872 Mr. Green asked for and obtained in the annual tax levy \$8,600,000 for interest on the public debt. He required and expended for interest that year only \$6,000,000, leaving an unexpended balance of \$2,600,000. In the two subsequent years, 1873 and 1874, he misrepresented to the Board of Apportionment the amount actually needed for interest, asked for less than he wanted, and used this unexpended balance for 1872 to make up the difference, concealing from the Board the fact of its existence until it was unearthed by Messrs. Vance and Wheeler. We further find from the report that of the taxes of 1872, 1873 and 1874, there remained uncollected upon January 1, 1875, \$12,000,000, while the unexpended balances of those three years amounted in the aggregate at the same date only to \$3,000,000. The question is, how was the balance of Nine Million Dollars, being the difference between the deficiency in the taxes imposed to meet the appropriations and the balance of the appropriations not called for, raised by Mr. Green? It is evident that the money has been secured only by a "bridging over" process; that is to say, by carrying over revenue bonds from year to year, by renewing such bonds when they fall due, and thus covering up, concealing and driving ahead an actual deficiency in the city Treasury of some ten million dollars. Such a wretched policy, evident through all the city's financial affairs, has compelled vexatious and extended litigation in order to drive off the payment of the public creditors. Legal expenses have been thus made enormous, interest has eaten us up and we stand to-day ignorant of our true condition, loaded down with debt and taxation, with a heavy deficiency that must one day be met, with an unadjusted or floating debt, the dimensions of which we cannot discover, and with our finances and our public credit at the mercy of a financial charlatan.

THE REPUBLICAN ALDERMEN, having learned sufficient wisdom to return to their duties, should have known better than to place themselves in the unenviable position of opposing the filing of the ordinance providing for the filing in of the foul lots under the direction of the Department of Public Works they have made themselves responsible for any evil consequences that may result to the public health during the heated term from this horrible plague spot. The fact that their ill-advised action appears to have been induced by partisan bitterness and bad spirit toward the majority only makes their conduct the more reprehensible. It is a cruel outrage that the lives of our citizens should be endangered by greedy

contractors and loose officials. It is outrageous that a handful of Aldermen, representing no constituencies, not elected by the people and only legislated into office, should defeat the attempt to remove the dangerous nuisance and protect the public health.

Cuban War News.

From the Cinco Villas we are treated to another of Valmaseda's despatches. This time he has done no less than routed and dispersed the forces commanded by the terrible Rios, one of the most daring and successful of the Cuban rebels. From the Captain General's account it is evident that if misfortune has befallen the gallant rebel it was his own fault. Getting tired of staying up in the mountains, where Valmaseda took care not to follow him, the Cuban leader made a raid up to the very outposts of Valmaseda's army, and, having burned four important plantations and a couple of railway stations, he retired with his booty to the mountains. So much is certain, because the Spaniards admit it; but whether the Spanish column sent in pursuit really came upon the retreating rebels, attacking and dispersing them, is not quite so certain. According to the Spanish accounts Rios was captured and soon after executed; but so many Cuban leaders have been executed by proxy that it is not quite certain that Rios may not be heard from again. One thing we may be sure of, however, is that the death of an ignorant mulatto chief will not put an end to the insurrection in the Cinco Villas any more than did the death of the gallant and accomplished Agramonte in Camaguey, or that of President Cespedes in the Eastern Department. Valmaseda may have gotten rid of Rios, but his story of the proximate termination of the war in the Villas must be taken with a grain of salt.

The Drama and the Schools.

A stray paragraph in our dramatic column has informed us that one of our most popular actors is about to visit Europe "for the purpose of studying in the best European schools." We do not know that we have read a dramatic item for some time that has given us more real pleasure. The trouble with a majority of our actors and actresses is that they do not honestly endeavor to excel in their calling. The deterioration of the stage of which so much is written arises from ignorance and indifference. Young people wander upon the boards in infancy, acquire a certain knowledge of walk and gait and pose and voice, and catch the tricks of famous artists. They become to a certain extent pat in Colley Cibber, and are content to wander along through manhood and into old age without becoming anything more than dramatic parrots. The consequence is that the stage becomes in many respects a machine. It does not grow. It depends for success largely upon its effects in color and drapery and painting. We have no doubt that there are men and women, either in the profession or anxious to enter it, who would make as great a fame as Mr. Kean or Miss Cushman. But there is no school for acting. Our stage directors think only of one object, and that is to make money. Nor do they do this with judgment; for, instead of nursing the stage, and when they have a great actor endeavoring to strengthen him by good performers and good plays, changed from day to day and running directly through a season, their aim is to find some one sensational piece with popular attributes, which they play until it wears itself out. Now, if we could have in our dramatic profession a school that would bring out the best points of the best actors, that would give a really good performer an opportunity, the result would be the elevation of the stage in New York and the consequent improvement of the drama all over the country. The ambition of the young tragedian is to be a good Othello or a good Hamlet; but there is as much genius required in being a good Mercutio or a proper Cassio and as much honor in performing these parts well. If we take the plays of Shakespeare it is hard to find the part, no matter how small, that will not test the best qualities of the best actors. What a play "Hamlet" would be if thoroughly performed; not we mean, with Mr. Booth as Hamlet surrounded by a company of sticks, but with Polonius and Horatio and Laertes and Ophelia and the grave diggers, and even the poor little player with his one act well performed. This is what they do in France. If our actors were to bring upon the stage the best points of the French school they would find as much ambition in doing a small part well as in doing a great part badly. This is a point upon which an audience never makes a mistake. When "Henry V." was performed here last winter, although Mr. Rignold had the leading part and did it well, the quick eyes of the audience saw in a minor actor, the stranger who performed the part of a Welshman, the true flash of dramatic genius. Although the reception given to Mr. Rignold when he came before the curtain at the end of the acts was cordial and appreciative, and worthy of his efforts, yet when Mr. Thorne came after him there was that loud, ringing, hearty cheer which meant the true appreciation of dramatic art.

WE HAVE in New York some of the finest theatres in the world for comfort, decoration and character. We have some of the best actors on the stage. England, with all its wealth of dramatic talent, has not, for twenty years at least, sent us any actors that could compare with our own. There is no reason why America should not find her own dramatic school. Why should we not have in New York the finest appointed theatrical company in the world? Why should we not have in New York as good a play house as the Théâtre Français? Why should it not become really a conservatory for the training of true dramatic art?

STREAM YACHTING.—The race between the Ideal and the Lookout marks a new era in yachting. There seems some danger that the pleasant, swanlike craft, with their immense spread of white canvas, are to give way to more rapid but certainly not so pleasant a craft. The new innovation will take from yachting that spice of amateur sailorism which was its chief charm. No one will be anxious to be an amateur engineer or fireman, so seamanship will come to be at discount. We cannot say that we like the change much. A cruise on the old-fashioned craft would, no doubt, be slower, but we think it would also be more enjoyable.

Mrs. Cruger's Will.

The decision of the courts in this important case cannot fail to give general satisfaction. A lady of some eighty years, suffering from the delusion that fires were lighted by the devil beneath her bed, made a will giving all her property to two religious corporations, believing such benefaction necessary to her salvation. Soon after the lady died and her relatives disputed the will. As all legal forms had been fulfilled the only ground upon which the will could be set aside was the lady's incompetence at the time of its execution. Most satisfactory evidence being produced showing that Mrs. Cruger was evidently of unsound mind for some years before the execution of the deed, and that she never fully recovered the use of her mental faculties, the Court very properly decided that the lady died intestate. Too much care cannot be taken in admitting wills of this nature to probate, the unreasonable fear of punishment in the next world producing a species of selfish insanity that induces moribund persons to bestow their property on religious bodies in a way to work gross injustice to their immediate relatives. It is the interest of society that the law should discourage as much as possible these deathbed gifts.

ANOTHER PARCE WAS ENACTED by the wrangling officials, Mayor Wickham and Comptroller Green, yesterday. The Mayor, probably recognizing the fact that under the present law he has nothing to do but to sign the firemen's warrants for last month's pay, but still stubbornly bent on not giving way, procured a stamp of his signature and with this affixed his name to the warrants. The Comptroller, resolved to bring the Mayor to his feet, declined to regard the stamp as a signature in the meaning of the law and refused to receive or pay the warrants. This farce only makes the actors in it appear more ridiculous than ever. Mayor Wickham, if sensible that he has no protection against the personal malice of the Comptroller, should have signed the warrants in a manly manner, even if he should have been compelled to forego the delights of Long Island and to spend a night in the city in which the fireman toil winter and summer. The stamping was a school-boy's trick. As to the Comptroller, the impertinent cause of all the trouble, no one can expect any other action from him but such as will occasion the greatest amount of annoyance and inconvenience to others.

THE REPUBLICAN PARTY in the French Chamber is evidently improving in wisdom. The members have signed and published a manifesto declaring that they will not obstruct the passage of needed measures, in order that the Assembly may get through its work and dissolve. They probably feel that in the next Assembly they will be able to control affairs so that the government will be practically in their hands—not counting MacMahon.

TURKEY.—The "Sick Man" seems about to relapse into the comatose state from which he was roused by the rude clanking administered to him by the Russian Bear some twenty years ago. English capitalists are becoming tired of doling out loans that, in all probability, will never be repaid. The overland route toward India, which Russia has adopted during the past few years, has also had its effect in deadening the interest felt by England in the Grand Turk; but since his utility as a political buffer has diminished English capitalists are slow about coming to the sick man's aid.

THE LATE ATTEMPT to disorganize the city government has happily ended this week with the return of the ill-advised and contumacious Aldermen to their post of duty. It is to be regretted that reputable citizens like Messrs. Vance and Morris should have been led by bad counsel first to defy the law and next to act a part worthy only of the worst days of Tammany rowdiness. Hereafter we trust they will exercise better judgment.

CAMBRIDGE'S CENTENNIAL is next in order. The venerable tree under which George Washington took the command of the American army will look down on a scene more brilliant, if not so solemn, as the one it celebrates. These celebrations are a good thing in their way and will serve to remind the young that nobility of soul and devotion to country achieve greater successes than selfishness and corruption can ever attain, and this is a useful lesson for boys just now.

CHARLES ROSS.—Just one year ago to-day little Charlie Ross was spirited away from his home, and since then, in spite of the great efforts of the police, no trace of the child has ever been found. That so daring a crime should go unpunished is a disgrace to the sagacity of our police officials, and is not calculated to increase the sense of personal security guaranteed by the law.

JUDGE BRADY yesterday gave his decision refusing to quash the new indictments against "Boss" Tweed. The argument upon which this refusal is based will be found in another column.

PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

Judge J. M. Woolworth, of Omaha, has taken up his residence at the Windsor Hotel.
Ex-Congressman Richard C. Parsons, of Ohio, is sojourning at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.
Rev. H. S. Acworth, of London, is among the late arrivals at the St. Nicholas Hotel.
Colonel Henry B. Carrington, United States Army, is quartered at the Grand Central Hotel.
Judge Theodore Miller, of the New York Court of Appeals, arrived last evening at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.
Mr. Ferdinand Bolander, Procureur of St. Pierre and Miquelon, Newfoundland, is staying at the St. Nicholas Hotel.
The late M. Philarète Chasles left a finished work on the "Social Psychology of New Peoples," which will soon see the light.
A message received in this city yesterday from London says—Lady Franklin is still alive and is reported to be slowly improving.
Chevalier Ernest von Tavera, Austrian Chargé d'Affaires at Washington, and Dr. Videla Dorna, Secretary of the Argentine Legation, have apartments at the Albemarle Hotel.
Colonel Henry B. Harrington, M.A., LL.D., Professor of Military Science and Dynamic Engineering, Western College, Indiana, leaves for Europe to-day in the City of Brussels. The Colonel has been for the last five years engaged in the preparation of a historical and military criticism of the battles of the late war. He goes to Europe for the purpose of obtaining official data from the British and French war offices and libraries, having had assurances from distinguished persons of both these countries that every facility for collecting material would be placed at his disposal. The work, by permission, will be dedicated to General Sherman.